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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/775,921	02/09/2004	Lawrence Andrew Hoffman	HOF-2.007D	1389
22874	7590	06/28/2004		
BRADLEY M GANZ, PC P O BOX 10105 PORTLAND, OR 97296			EXAMINER KLAUS, LISA NHUNG	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2832	
DATE MAILED: 06/28/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/775,921	HOFFMAN, LAWRENCE ANDREW	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Lisa N. Klaus	2832	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 9/2/04.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 6-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 6, 7, 9, 10 and 12 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8, 11, 13-18, 21, 22 and 24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 19, 20 and 23 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 February 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2/9/04</u>  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Drawings***

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference character(s) mentioned in the description: "616" (page 17, line 9). "622", (page 17, line 17), "150c" (page 18, line 28). Corrected drawing sheets are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Specification***

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

The reference character "154" has been used to designate both "contact" (page 18, line 11) and "additional modules" (page 18, line 26). Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Objections***

3. Claim 24 is objected to because of the following informalities:

Regarding claim 24, change "fema le" to --female--.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 8, 11, 13-15, 21 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as

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being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The term "and/or" in claims 8, 11, 13, 15, 21 and 24 is a relative term which renders the claim indefinite. The term "and/or" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention.

***Double Patenting***

5. Claims 16-18 and 22 are provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-3 and 5 of copending Application No. 10/251,552. This is a provisional double patenting rejection since the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

6. Claims 6, 7, 9, 10 and 12 are allowed.

Claims 19, 20 and 23 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 8, 11, 13-15, 21 and 24 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The Prior Art does not teach or suggest the vehicle door jamb modular contact switch for transmitting electrical current through a vehicle door jamb assembly including a door jamb of a movable door and fixed door post, comprising the plurality of active contact modules, and plurality of passive contact modules, each active contact module having a biased contact active

contact and a housing having one or more coupling surfaces, wherein two or more active contact modules are coupled via their coupling surfaces; each passive contact module having a passive contact and a housing having one or more coupling surfaces, wherein two or more active contact modules are coupled via their coupling surfaces; the active contact assembly adapted to be mounted to the door jamb of a movable door and the passive contact assembly adapted to be mounted within the fixed-door post, the movable door and fixed-door post in cooperating relationship wherein the biased contact active contacts of the plurality of active contact modules are in cooperative engagement with the passive contacts of the plurality of passive contact modules and form a closed circuit when the vehicle door assumes a closed position.

Claim 19, the first end contact module comprises a first side having coupling features comprising at least one protruding male component adjacent the top side and at least one complimentary female component adjacent the bottom side, the first end passive contact module comprises a first side having coupling features comprising at least one protruding male component adjacent the top side and at least one complimentary female component adjacent the bottom side.

Claim 23, wherein the protruding male component and female component further comprise at least one fixation feature adapted to removably fix the engagement between the protruding male component and the complementary female component in substantial alignment therewith;

Claim 24, wherein the protruding male component further comprises at least one detent ridge and detent trough and the female component further comprises at least one complimentary detent trough and ridge, wherein the detent ridge and complementary detent

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trough are adapted to removably fix the engagement between the protruding male component and the complementary female component in substantial alignment therewith.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

**Conclusion**

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Lisa Nhung Klaus whose telephone number is (571)272-1993, and whose fax number is 703-872-9306. In the event that I am not reached, you can contact my supervisor, Mr. Elvin G. Enad at (571)272-1990 or the tech center receptionist at (703) 308-1782.

Lisa Nhung Klaus

Patent Examiner - Art Unit 2832

June 21, 2004

  
ELVIN ENAD  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800  
6/24/04